

Application No : 10/541,961
Amdt dated: February 13, 2007
Reply to Office action of September 13, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 3, please replace the first full paragraph, lines 8-20, with the following paragraph:

-- Different wire materials, wire diameters and coil turns may be used to provide the various tensions, strengths and other holding characteristics of the clamp. The wire material may be of a specific hardness or temper to provide specific strength and tension properties. In another aspect of the invention, a wire may be flattened or coined to provide a particular profile, shape or embossing. In addition, the jaw portions of the clamp may be shaped, curved, bent or otherwise configured to provide access to specific areas of a procedure. The clamp may also be coated with a material providing improved traction and padding. The material used for coating may be thermoset or thermoplastic materials, examples of which include soft silicone elastomer, KRATON polymer, PVC, polyisoprene and the like. In another aspect of the invention, the entire clamp may be coated with one material and the jaw portions coated with another material.--

On page 10, please replace the first full paragraph, lines 4-22, with the following:

-- FIG. 13 illustrates an enlarged view of a clamp 350 having jaws 352 and 354 with additional traction capabilities. In particular, the jaws 352 and 354 of clamp 350 are coated with a material that enhances traction and provides a soft and atraumatic padding over the jaws. It should be noted that the margins between the two wire extensions that form the jaws already provide enhanced traction. That is, the clamp is not likely to slip along the length of a vessel due to the vessel material that is urged into the margin when the jaws are closed. Stated another way, traction is separated from

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the force required to occlude the vessel. As such, the jaw portions of the clamp may be coated with more than one material to enhance traction and to protect delicate body tissues. The materials used to coat or cover the jaw portions may be soft silicone elastomer, KRATON polymer, PVC, polyisoprene and the like. In another aspect of the invention, the entire clamp may be coated with one material and the jaw portions coated with another material. A traction enhancement feature of the invention may be added to the opposing surfaces of the jaws during the application of a jaw coating by placing an embossed wafer between the jaws after they have been coated and while they cure. In yet another embodiment of the invention, disposable or reusable inserts may also be placed over the jaw portions of the clamp to improve traction.--